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THERE IS CLAIMED:

1. A cellular mobile telephone system usable on board a passenger transport vehicle, the system including:
  - a first transmitter-receiver station on board said vehicle and connected to an antenna external to said vehicle to establish an external radio link between said vehicle and a terrestrial mobile telephone network, and
  - means in said vehicle for coupling portable mobile telephone terminals inside said vehicle to said transmitter-receiver station, said means including at least one base station system having at least one antenna inside said vehicle and a base station controller connected to each base station system and to said first transmitter-receiver station, said controller and said base station system having functions analogous to those of a base station system in a standard mobile telephone network.
2. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein said external radio link is relayed by at least one satellite.
3. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein a base station system includes means enabling said portable mobile telephone terminals inside said vehicle to send and receive data.
4. The system claimed in claim 1 wherein a base station system includes means enabling portable mobile telephone terminals inside said vehicle to set up calls between them.